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SENATOR PAT BURNS' FUNERAL IS ARRANGED FOR SATURDAY

Men who knew Hon. Senator Patrick Burns in his vigorous youth when he rode the plains of Alberta Wednesday paid verbal tribute to his memory as citizens prepared to honor him at funeral services to be conducted Saturday.

Senator Burns passed away quietly at his residence on Thirteenth avenue west at 4.20 a.m. Wednesday after a cold contracted several days ago developed complications Tuesday evening. He was 81 years of age. .....

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The rise of Patrick Burns from a penniless boy to a multimillionaire, and probably the most dominating individual business figure in the west, is a part of its history. The prairie plains of Canada gave him his great opportunity, but he paid back in large measure for, in the upbuilding of his own success, he was helping to make a country.

With less than average advantages, and very little schooling, he started out at an early age, a poor boy, to earn his own living. No honest work was too humble. If he needed a job, he took the first one handy, whether digging potatoes, blasting rocks, or "riding herd". If he hadn't the price of a railroad ticket or the money to outfit a Red River cart, he walked.

The story of his life and accomplishments is an inspiration to every youth in Canada today. It is the story of a poor boy becoming one of the most successful business

men in Canada. It is the story of a man of indomitable spirit, courageous in his convictions, sound and determined in business, overcoming every obstacle and winning world-wide recognition.

START WAS HUMBLE

In 38 years--1890 to 1928--he built up one of the largest packing and provisioning businesses in the world. He started with a small slaughter house in East Calgary and during the intervening years purchased or built packing plants at Calgary, Edmonton, Vancouver, Prince Albert, Regina, Winnipeg, and Seattle. He bought out or started over a hundred retail meat shops in the provinces of British Columbia and Alberta. He established 65 creameries, and cheese factories, 11 wholesale provision houses and 18 wholesale fruit houses. He extended his business overseas and had offices in London, Liverpool and Yokohama.

He hurled his energies into the livestock and ranching industry of the prairies, and became the owner of some of the best known ranches of Canada; among them being the "Bar U" and "willow Creek" which surround the "E.P." owned by Edward, Duke of Windsor.

In addition to these interests, he has always been a strong supporter of commercial enterprises, pertaining to the development of the west. Included in these are the Turner Valley oil fields, the drilling of wells on his own ranches, extensive coal leases and large real estate holdings.

VILLAGE SCHOOL

Born at Oshawa, Ont., July 6, 1856, he was the son of Michael and Bridget Gibson Burns, both of Irish birth. When

he was an infant, his parents moved to Kirkfield, Ont., where he received a meagre education at the village school.

In Kirkfield, at the same time lived William Mackenzie, destined to be the late "Sir William" of the famous firm of railroad builders of mackenzie and Mann. The Mackenzie farm was near the Burns farm and a life-long friendship sprang up between the two boys.

The story is told that at potato digging time, Mackenzie, who was seven years older than young Burns, was in charge of a field. The "picking" always fell to the younger boys, and so "Pat" was allotted this particular job. This was the beginning of a business association that later laid the foundation of the "P.Burns and Co. Ltd.," meat trafficing industry which encircled the globe.

When Patrick Burns was 23 years of age, in 1878, he and his brother John (now deceased) came West during the emigration of the Ontario farmers to Manitoba. When they arrived at Winnipeg, they learned that the best and most available land was at "Tanner's Crossing, (near the present town of Minnedosa). They didn't have the money to purchase a travelling outfit, so with a group of other young men they walked 160 miles. They filed on their land and walked back to Winnipeg to get work to save a "stake" which would enable them to "prove up" on their homesteads.

At this time the Canadian Pacific Railway was being built west of the Great Lakes into Winnipeg. Patrick Burns got a job "on the road" blasting rocks in the Ingolf and Cross Lake District. For this he received $25.00 per month

and his board in a construction camp. He worked a year, saved enough money to buy a yoke of oxen and a few supplies, and returned to his homestead. His pioneer neighbors gathered together in a "building bee" as was the custom of the early days of the West, and helped him put up his small shack.

FINANCED HIMSELF

During his "proving up" time he financed himself by freighting back and forth to Winnipeg and by dabbling in cattle. This latter consisted of buying and selling small lots of cattle in proportion to the money he had. During this period of his life he accomplished nothing spectacular, for getting a start was a long uphill road. Many a time he didn't have the price of a bed and had to borrow money to finance his deals.

In the course of his buying he purchased some hogs and decided to try the experiment of shipping them over the newly constructed railway to eastern markets. After negotiating about the rate, since it was the first transaction of its kind for the railway, the company proposed to bill through five cars and if he lost money on the deal it would rebate him up to the total amount of the freight. Three weeks later he called at the company's office to say he did not require any rebate. To Patrick Burns, consequently goes the distinction of shipping the first western livestock to the eastern markets.

In 1886 the Mackenzie and Mann firm of railroad builders was incorporated. Patrick Burns had always kept in touch with his old friend, William Mackenzie, and he was fortunate in getting from that firm the contracts to supply the meat to the construction camps of their road building operations. And just as in former years, he gathered the potatoes while the older boy dug them, so he brought up the meat, all a part of the large accomplishment of the person who engaged him.

Road building operations began in the State of Main, with the short line of the Canadian Pacific Railway. This was followed by similar contracts for the Qu'Appelle Long Lake and Saskatchewan Railway in 1888 and '89 and later by the Calgary and Edmonton, and Calgary and Macleod branches of the Canadian Pacific Railway in the early nineties.

When this was finished, it was logical for Patrick Burns to use his facilities and connections established as a meat contractor to go into the business of wholesale distributing of livestock among the retail meat merchants of British Columbia.

BURNED OUT TWICE

His business grew rapidly, but he had his setbacks too. Twice his Calgary plant burned down--the original slaughter house in 1892 and again in 1913. In the second instance, he gave orders forrebuilding before the fire was out and in the interim the regular business was carried on with little delay or confusion.

During the Great War he put his resources at the service of the government and was a great help both in shipping livestock to the allied countries and in helping with the food conservation campaign.

In 1928 he sold out the P. Burns and Co. Ltd. to Dominion Securities for $15,000,000. Since then he has been directing his other diversified interests under the company known as the "P. Burns Agencies."

He was always modest of his accomplishments. Many a time he was asked to run for parliament. He refused offers to a senatorship from Liberal governments of which he was a supporter, but in 1931 accepted Premier R.B. Bennett's offer. His appointment to the senate, notification of which was received at Calgary where thousands of persons had gathered for the celebration of his 75th birthday anniversay, was received with great acclaim by all sections. Patrick Burns was often called the "King of the Prairies." His help to the fatherless, to the crippled, to ambitious students and in fact to every good cause, will always remain obscure. For these good deeds the Pope conferred upon him the distinction of Knight Commander of the Order of St. Gregory the Great.

In July 1931, all Western Canada celebrated his 75th birthday at the Calgary Exhibition and Stampede when a huge birthday cake was cut into 25,00 pieces.

He was married in 1901 to Eileen Ellis, daughter of Thomas Ellis, Penticton, B.C., who pre-deceased him in 1923. His only son, Michael, died last year.